

In re Patent Application of:

WHITE ET AL

Serial No. 10/824,141

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IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend paragraph [42] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[42] Attention is now directed to Figures 7 and 8, which are respective diagrammatic side-interior and rear-end views of a respective one of the transmit and receiver cartridges 30 shown in Figures 1, 4 and 5, described above. A respective cartridge 30 is configured as a generally cylindrically or tubular shaped metallic body or housing that is generally rotationally symmetric about a central (boresight) axis 35. A first or forward end 36 of the cartridge has a step-contoured, cylindrical ring 37, that is sized to fit within and close the forward end of the cartridge, and to also securely capture a light directing component (e.g., a focusing lens) 38, the perimeter of which is captured by and sealed against the cylindrical ring 37. The lens 38 serves as a light collection optic component for a receiver cartridge and as a light collimating optic component for a transmitter cartridge. It should also be noted that the light directing component 38 is not limited to a focusing lens, but may include other light directing elements such as mirrors and additional lenses. The function of the light directing component is to interface light between a collection, transmission aperture 39 at the end of a light relay element [[41]]51 (e.g., coherent fiber rod) and free space.

Please amend paragraph [46] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[46] In accordance with a first embodiment of the cartridge of the invention, an optical waveguide relay element in the form of a coherent fiber rod 51 is retained by (e.g., bonded to) the fiber rod connector 49, so as to project coaxially along the cartridge's

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boresight axis 35 into the interior of the cartridge. The coherent fiber rod 51 is sized and retained by the fiber rod connector 49, such that its end facet 39 is coincident with the focal plane of the lens 38. The focus of the light collecting end facet 39 of the coherent fiber rod 51 is adjustable by screwing the fiber rod connector 49 into or out of the end cap 50, so that the fiber rod 51 is translatable along the optical axis of the lens 38.